## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## GOVERNOR DAVIS ANNOUNCES NEARLY \$30 MILLION IN GRANTS FOR AMERICORPS IN CALIFORNIA

Money Will Fund Community-Based Service Programs in Meeting Local Needs

**SACRAMENTO** Governor Gray Davis today announced roughly \$30 million in federal grant funds for AmeriCorps in California that are now available through the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV).

"National service meets important needs in California's communities by giving people a chance to give back to their community in a meaningful way," Gov. Davis said.

GO SERV is seeking grant applications from community organizations that either have or want to establish an AmeriCorps program in their community. There are over 6,000 AmeriCorps members serving in California through nearly 60 different AmeriCorps programs.

AmeriCorps members serve in a variety of ways, tutoring and mentoring students in after-school programs, renovating and repairing over 6,000 miles of California's backcountry trails and visiting families who have been deemed at risk of child abuse and neglect to ensure that they get the proper help they need. A study found that child abuse and neglect decreased 24 percent in communities where AmeriCorps members served.

AmeriCorps places a premium on meeting educational, environmental, public safety and other health and human needs. This year, emphasis will be placed on funding programs that focus on foster youth and homeland security.

GO SERV is California's national service program, charged with the implementation and oversight of AmeriCorps. For more information about AmeriCorps or to apply for an AmeriCorps grant, visit <a href="https://www.goserv.ca.gov">www.goserv.ca.gov</a> or phone GO SERV at (916) 323-7646.